

11-13-02

1634
S/\$



Express Mail No.: EL 451 598 819 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Smith *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 8561

Serial No.: 09/823,649

Group Art Unit: 1634

Filed: March 30, 2001

Examiner: Gunter, D. R.

For: HIGH TEMPERATURE
REVERSE TRANSCRIPTION
USING MUTANT
POLYMERASES

Attorney Docket No.: 1803-343-999

#10
CD
11/22/02
w/Ext (4)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

NOV 20 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action mailed June 13, 2002, in connection with the above-captioned application. Reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.143 in light of the remarks that follow is respectfully requested. Accompanying this Response is a Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to extend the period of response by four months, to and including November 13, 2002.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 24, 2002, Applicants elected to prosecute the claims of Group I. As the P.T.O. noted, the claims associated with Group I are Claims 1, 8-13, 20-29, 36-41, and 48-52.

In a further Office communication dated June 13, 2002, the P.T.O. objected to the election of Group I on the basis that the elected claim group "is drawn to an enzyme comprising SEQ ID No: 1, ... defined ... as LXXXXXXXXXE ... wherein X at position 2 is